to 42.06 m depth. The command area under various sources of irrigation also increased. The average area under tree and vegetation has increased in all the watershed areas with increased fodder availability in all the watershed development programmes. Over 19.2 million man-days were generated under these programmes in 12 districts at an average of 0.25 million man-days per watershed.

Rural sanitation campaign in Rajasthan

3104. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of villages in India and out of them, how many have been covered under the total sanitation campaign in the rural areas of the country till date;

(b) the total number of villages in Rajasthan, and out of them, how many have been covered under this scheme, till date;

(c) whether looking to the backwardness of rural areas in the desert State of Rajasthan, some special grant by the Centre in the context, is under contemplation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) projects are sanctioned district-wise, and all rural areas of a TSC project district are covered under the programme. TSC is not sanctioned for individual villages. In India, TSC projects have so far been sanctioned in 520 districts. As far as Rajasthan is concerned, TSC projects have been sanctioned in all the 32 districts of the State.

(c) and (d) At present, no special grant for Rajasthan under TSC is contemplated as all districts of the State are covered under TSC.

Computerisation of land records

3105. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have laid any emphasis on the computerisation of land records in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of efforts made in this behalf and their results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI A. NARENDRA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. A Centrally sponsored scheme for Computerisation of Land Records (CLR) was started in the year 1988-1989 with 100% financial support from the Government of India. At present, the scheme is being implemented in 32 States/Union Territories covering 582 districts in the country. Funds have also been provided to States for setting up of Computer centres in 3325 tehsils/taluks/blocks and 562 sub-divisions in the country. So far Rs. 346.13 crores have been released to States/UTs for the implementation of the Scheme of CLR.

Consideration of Assam as a special category State

3106. SHRI SILVIUS CONDPAN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state whether the Government of India will consider Assam as a special category State in the matter of economic development without asking the State to contribute its share as it cannot do so due to annual natural calamity with heavy floods damaging the existing structures of roads, bridges every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL): There is no proposal with the Ministry of Rural Development to consider Assam as a special category State in the matter of economic development without asking the State to constribute its share, in those schemes where the State has to contribute a certain share.

Income gap between rural and urban population

3107. SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a gradual rise in the income gap between the rural and urban population;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) what plan of action Government have in mind to reduce this gap; and

(d) what steps Government have so far taken to reduce this gap.